

The Princess de Brancovan has now entirely recovered from her illness. She left her apartment on her return from the South, and on Sunday last reopened the doors of her beautiful house in the Avenue Hoche for a déjeuner which were present the Prince and Princesses de Monaco, the Prince and Princesses of Chimay, the Duke and Duchess of Nemours, Baron Hubert de Saint Amand, the historian-geographer of Queen Marie Antoinette, and Princesse de Vaudreuil, and others. The Princess has announced that she will give another such party next Sunday déjeuners, which constituted so attractive a feature of the Parisian season during the lifetime of her late husband. In his day the breakfast parties at the Hotel d'Artois, where were Halesy, Massenet, Caro Bourget, and half a dozen members of the French Academy. The Prince was the eldest son of the republican ally, the celebrated actor, who had three daughters, the first, Mlle Musurus Pachá, who for some years represented the sublime Porte as Ambassadress in London. Her Christian name is Rakia, and she still retains traces of the Turkish language. Her second daughter is married in London. Her third was one of the most magnificent abodes in

feeding and to look after themselves. Indeed, the farmer seldom sees his flock again till the next spreading season. They are then found, one by one, about the water, where they feed upon insects and seaweed and other life-givers. Some find the value of the duck in the fact that they will not breed or hatch during the whole time of laying generally give half a pound of down, which is, however, reduced to one-third when the duck is a second-year bird.

This down is divided into hang-down or seaweed down, and grass-down or grass down. The latter is generally considered to be the better, but the former is very valuable, and fetches from \$1 to \$5 a pound.

The three takes of down vary considerably in quality, the first being superior to the second, and the second to the third. The birds themselves, apart from their down-giving capacity, are of little value, and are sold for nothing but as older ducks. Values as it has lost all its marvelous plasticity.

An older duck farmer is a considerably proud of his ducks, and is often very susceptible to their peculiar affection. The owner of the farm just described was in the habit of saying that he would rather lose one of his chickens than one of his ducks, but to any one who had seen both this statement would seem to have had little comparative value.

Entering the fourth room one finds, near the door, a curious wooden chest. In it is one of the most highly prized objects in the whole collection. This is the insignificant, simple and much-damaged chair on which Prince Bismarck sat during the negotiations with Napoleon after the

The Prince's study is a very large room with several mahogany tables, well able to bear large loads of manuscripts and documents. The windows look toward the south, and close to them stands an enormous writing desk, with an uncomfortable chair that has no back to it. A bronze inkstand, blue sand and paper are the only implements besides a goose quill, the only kind of pen ever used by the Chancellor, who abhors steel